

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/560,993

Examiner

Robert B. Davis

Applicant(s)

LEMAISTRE ET AL.

Art Unit

1791

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 12/16/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Robert B. Davis  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1791

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Paul F. Neils on 1/7/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

On line 2 of claim 9, "claim 1" has been replaced by "claim 3".

On line 2 of claim 10, "claim 1" has been replaced by "claim 3".

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record teach or suggest a molding device for blow molding containers, the device having at least one mold comprising at least two half molds that can be moved with respect to each other between an open position and a closed position in which they are pressed together via collaborating bearing faces defining a parting line, locking means being provided to lock the two half molds in the closed position, wherein: the locking means comprise two lock elements mounted respectively on the two half molds along the edges of the respective bearing faces and extending substantially over the entire height of the half molds, each lock element comprises a multiplicity of hook shaped projecting fingers distributed over the entire

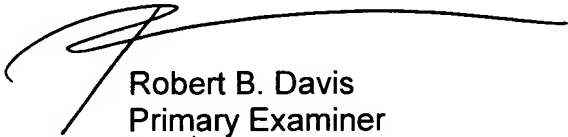
height of the lock element and which, on one lock element face away from the bearing face of the corresponding half mold and, on the other lock element face toward the bearing face of the corresponding half mold, the fingers of each lock element being substantially parallel and separated from one another by spacings the individual heights of which are slightly greater than the individual heights of the fingers, one of the lock elements being mounted fixedly on the corresponding half mold and the other lock element being mounted, on the other half mold, such that it can move so that it can be slid parallel to the axis of the mold, and actuating means functionally associated with the moving lock element in order to move the latter between two positions, namely: a first position or unlocked position in which the fingers of the moving lock element are positioned respectively level with the spacings between the fingers of the fixed lock element, in which position the two half molds are not locked together, and a second position or locked position in which, with the two half molds pressed firmly together in the closed position, the moving lock element is moved parallel to the axis of the mold so that its fingers engage respectively with the fingers of the fixed lock element, in which position the two half molds are locked together in their closed position. The closest prior art French reference 2646802 teaches alternating fingers (6, 9) on the opposing mold halves and a locking element that is actuated to a locked position (figure 1); however, the reference fails to disclose or suggest the fingers on one of the molds being moved by an actuating member to lock the mold.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert B. Davis whose telephone number is 571-272-1129. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta can be reached on 571-272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Robert B. Davis  
Primary Examiner  
*Art Unit 1791*

*1/7/08*